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## THE DECORATION AND FURNISHING OF THE CATHOLIC CLUB.



HE Catholic Club of the city of New York is a corporation of Catholic gentlemen, whose object is the establishment and maintenance of a general and circulating library; a reading room with scientific collections; literary, historical and scientific lectures; the promotion of moral and intellectual improvement and wholesome social recreation and amusement by all proper means. The Catholic Club originated in the Xavier Union, which was organized in March, 1871, by certain educated

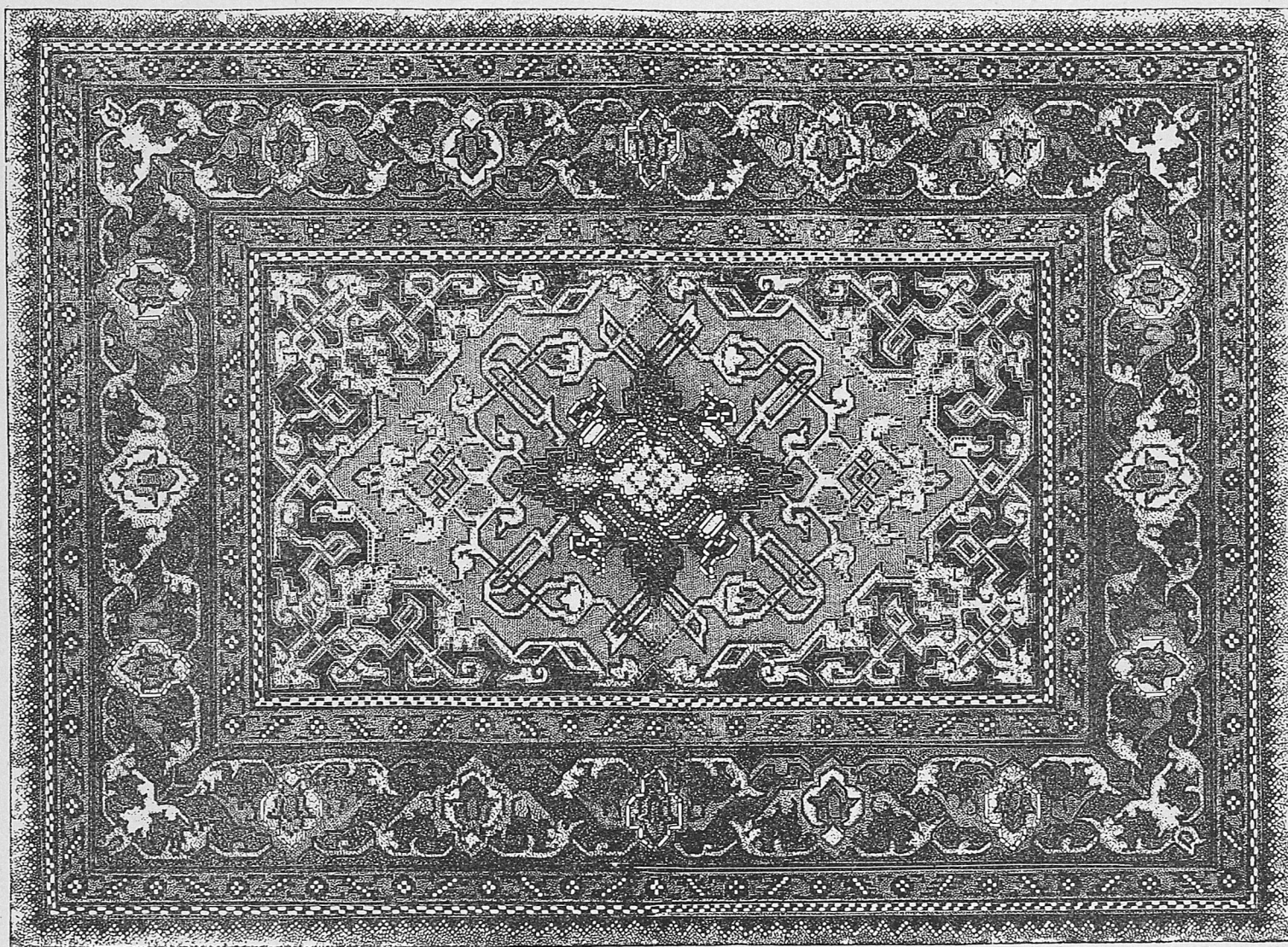
Catholic young men of this city, its object being to unite the members more intimately, and to effect certain desirable ends

The house has a basement and five stories, and the style of the exterior is in the Italian Renaissance. The lower story is built of stone, and the upper stories are faced with Roman brick and terra cotta. The main entrance and loggia over same are striking features. In the interior of the building the style of the Italian Renaissance prevails, with the exception of the ladies' parlor and ball-room.

In the basement we find the engine room, store-rooms, kitchen, and four very fine and well appointed bowling alleys. On the first floor are located an imposing entrance hall, visitors' room, billiard-room, wardrobe, etc.

### ENTRANCE HALL.

The entrance hall and stairway are magnificent, being finished entirely in English oak. The walls of the hall with its high oaken wainscot and paneled ceiling are decorated with a hanging in leather effect, the detail in Italian Renaissance design expressed in relief of lacquered gold, on a background of Titian red. Opposite the entrance a large doorway leads to the billiard-room; this is hung with an antique tapestry, framed in Velours



DESIGN FOR A SMYRNA RUG.

not strictly within the scope of a purely religious body, such as a taste for the sciences and art, and to harmonize proper recreation both for mind and body with its main object of awakening and keeping alive an interest in Catholic history and literature.

The new Catholic Club of the city of New York is located at 120 West 59th street, overlooking Central Park. The building has a frontage of 75 feet, and covers with the extension, containing a large assembly room, the full depth of the lot, which is 110 feet, but on both sides the building falls back, forming two courts, which give ample light and air to all the rooms.

de Flandres. Two doorways leading into the reading-room on the right are screened with portieres of Vatican tapestry, toned to harmonize with the wall treatment, and the hall is furnished with a cushioned bench, an oak settle, and carved chimney chairs in Cordova leather.

### VISITORS' ROOM.

The visitors' reception room on the left is simply but appropriately treated, the walls hung with a pale gray cartridge paper, showing a stenciled design in soft tints of green and faint yellow, the ceiling repeating the effect on a lighter key with a



## THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

delicate outline ornamentation of gold. The furniture of light oak, a modified reproduction of an old French design, is upholstered in camel white Velours d'Antwerp; the windows are curtained with the same material, enriched with Cordonnet applique, and the floor is covered with a Wilton carpet in tones of wood brown.

### READING-ROOM.

The reading room walls are in Japanese leather, the background of copper bronze, showing a bold design in old brass; a Royal Wilton rug of Oriental design in old red and Persian blue covers the floor; bookcases and reading tables of antique oak, deep seated easy chairs in russet leather, an oval center divan in old red Velours Titian; window hangings of deep gold embroidered in dull metallic effect, combine to produce an air of quiet and elegant repose.

### BILLIARD ROOM.

In the billiard room adjoining, the walls and ceilings are paneled by oaken pilasters and beams, enriched with heavy relief, the motive a conventionalized treatment of oak leaves. The wall hanging is a dull bronze, overlaid with a free drawing in metallic green, while the ceiling is treated with lacquered aluminum, carrying a broad ornamentation suggested by the wall design, in half tones of the key colors. A raised platform surrounding the room is set with chairs and tables in the Viennese style; the windows are lightly screened with Japanese silk gauze of a soft yellowish tint. The floor spaces between the billiard tables are carpeted with velvet mosaic in camel drab.

### STAIRCASE AND UPPER HALLS.

The broad main staircase and upper halls are entirely covered with a Templeton Axminster carpet in two tones of deep Indian red, the walls in contrast being hung with an ingrain paper of warm buff, showing an outline design in baronial style. The ceilings are tinted in half tones of the wall color with border enrichments. The lines of the staircase openings are softened by draperies of Velours Hansa in Morris gold edged with a tasseling in metallic effect.

### HALL AND BOARD ROOM.

On the second floor are a large hall, board room, ballroom, ladies' parlor and drawing-room. The loggia hall is decorated in fawn repousse and hangings of Velours de Bruges with embroideries in Empire style on Gobelin cloth, the carpet being an Axminster in Indian red. A low divan in mahogany velours occupies that part of the hall overlooking the stairway, while on the opposite wall is a large oil painting containing a life-size figure of Pope Pius IX., by the artist.

The board room is in deep olive and gold draped in Capucine Velours Titien with applique ornamentation, the table, cabinets, etc., being in rose wood. The carpet is a velvet pile in tones of, and the ceiling is frescoed.

### BALL-ROOM.

The finest feature of the interior is the beautiful ball-room, which is treated in the style of Louis XVI., profusely ornamented in relief by Klee. The most intense effect is produced in the ceiling, which is ornamented with a large oval panel having a border of scrolls in hand modelled relief. The entire border is studded with a line of incandescent lights, whose soft radiance floods the apartment with light. The color scheme is in ivory and gold. The wall columns are of marble, with richly gilded capitals, and support electric lamps beautifully modelled in gold bronze. The many windows are draped with a silken damask in the prevailing tones, and vitrage curtains of creamy lace with ribbon and flower enrichments in the style of Marie Antoinette. Two balcony alcoves with gold balustrades overlook the apartment from one of the walls. Low divans upholstered in vieux rouge Velours de Soie surround the room, and with consols in ivory and gold complete the furnishing. This apartment is certainly the most elegant ball-room in the city.

The ladies' room adjoining the ball-room is in golden brown and soft yellow; the floor is carpeted with a velvet mosaic of solid tint, and the walls are hung with silk paper of Louis XVI. design. A broad divan of Velours de Brabant is heaped with cushions of down in coverings of softly colored silks, and the windows are hung with Yama Mai brocade, with vitrage curtains of Brussels lace.

### DRAWING-ROOM.

The drawing-room in Louis XV. style displays a fanciful elaboration of relief ornament verging on the Rococo, also by Klee. The paneled walls are hung with an exquisite rose satin damask, showing a tone design of scrolls and floral effects. The window draperies of similar stuff, lambrequins embroidered in gold and enriched by flower paintings by Gariboldi; portieres of ivory and gold Moire, ribbon embroidered in the old French style, a soft carpet of Royal Axminster of indefinite design, supply a fitting frame for the picturesque furnishing. A deeply tufted circular divan in Nile green brocade occupies the centre of the room, and gives the key color for the upholstery in Watteau style of fauteuils and sofas with carved and gilded frames. Gilded tables find appropriate places, costly Sevres vases rest on stately cabinets with mirrored linings, and the mantel supports a superb clock and vases in onyx and ormolu.

### LIBRARY.

The library in English oak is walled by its thousands of volumes, and gives space for only an occasional Morris chair with cushions of dull terra cotta corduroy and antique sofa in Henri IV. tapestry, and a few curtains of deep olive stuff hung below carved oaken transoms screening the lofty windows. The club's library at present contains over 18,000 volumes.

### DINING-ROOMS.

The dining-rooms on the fifth story are furnished in an antique mahogany; the walls are hung with a paper of warm olive tone, carrying a Renaissance design in russet, outlined with gold; the hangings are of Velours de Bruges with metallic enrichments in Cordonnet style and the chairs are upholstered in russet leather with a studding of oxydized brass.

### COMMITTEE ROOMS.

The various committee rooms and suites of apartments for members are appropriately hung in papers mainly of two-toned effects, with window hangings, carpets and furniture in harmony with the purposes and surroundings, and following in a simpler degree the more ornate apartments in the building.

The draping and furnishing of the house was executed by Messrs. Joseph P. McHugh & Co., of 3 and 5 West 42nd St., New York.

The architects of the building are Messrs. Wm. Schickel & Co., and it is due to them and the untiring efforts of the building committee, that, while a high degree of workmanship and elegance in the execution of the work has been attained, the preliminary estimates of the cost of the building, which were put down at \$180,000, have not been exceeded in the completion of the work.

A VERY beautiful piece for the centre of a dinner table is made of fine close French linen one yard square, fringed out to the depth of three inches all round, and the fringe secured by hem stitching. The design for decorating is a full spray of dog-wood blossoms and leaves in each corner. The blossoms are done with file floss, in a deep shade of cream color, with gold for the stamens and a little dull garnet color for the plaiting, such as nature puts on the petals of the blossoms. Buttonhole and Kensington stitches enter into the work, and the leaves are done with one or two shades of olive green in outline stitch.

Every year sees an increase in the artistic feeling of our country, and in nothing is this improvement more manifest than in our china and pottery. Time was when one came across a piece of china that satisfied our sense of color and form, we were almost invariably met by the information that it was of foreign design and manufacture. Now, however, it argues willful perverseness if one has anything common or vulgar in one's plenishing, while it requires downright malice and (a great amount of) forethought to procure downright ugly things.

ELEGANT through service to Pittsfield and the Berkshire Hills via New York Central.

PALACES on wheels are the new Wagner cars of the great through trains of the New York Central.